

## SOUTH HAVEN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 9, 2017

The South Haven City Council met in regular session on Wednesday, August 9, 2017 at City Hall. Present were Mayor Don Minor and all council members: Steve Nicholson, Katrina Hallman, Linda Elliott, Diana Locke, and Kim Byers (arriving at 6:32pm). Also present were Emily Harding, Russell Hyde, Seth Brown, City Maintenance Thomas Bacon, and City Clerk Amy Brown. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm and Mayor Minor opened with prayer.

The minutes of the July council meeting were reviewed by council. Katrina Hallman motioned to accept the minutes as written and Steve Nicholson seconded. The council vote passed unanimously. Kim Byers arrived at this time.

The list of disbursements for July was then reviewed by council. Steve Nicholson motioned to pay the bills in the amounts of \$16,977.71 for regular disbursements and \$11,711.85 for fire department donation fund disbursements. Linda Elliott seconded and the council vote passed unanimously.

Mayor Minor inquired of the guests if there was any patron input. Emily Harding stated she was there to observe. Russell Hyde commented on the trash company not putting the lids back up on the trash totes after dumping them. The clerk said she would ask about it, but that it may have something to do with the new style of tote. Mr. Hyde also inquired about when the fair events would be listed on the city website.

Thomas Bacon reported on the following:

1. The gravel for the three east/west roads to the school had been delivered. After the recent large amount of rain, Thomas reported another two loads were needed on east Stuart street.
2. Problems with the sewer lift pumps. Thomas reported pulling the pumps many times since the last meeting and pulling rags and baby wipes from them. Thomas then explained to council the history of the pumps since new and the previous problems with one pump due

to the same circumstances experienced currently. Thomas reported that JCI had been called and had made one good working pump out of the two and presented to council quotes for both repair and replacement. The difference was approximately \$1,200.00, but Thomas explained there was a problem with the points on the pump discovered after that was not included with the quote. Another issue was that the new pump would take additional time due to international delivery. Kim Byers questioned whether it was possible to determine where the rags were coming from, but due to the fact they had made it to the lift station, there was not. Kim also inquired if the new pump would have the same issues. Diana Locke asked Thomas what his opinion was. A new pump is needed, but it would also be beneficial to keep the current inoperable pump for parts. Thomas also requested a load of gravel for the lift station. Katrina Hallman inquired as to what fund the money would come from. The clerk stated it would be the sewer fund.

3. A water main leak under the highway on west Stuart street.
4. There would be no street sweeping by the state before the fair. Kim Byers asked why and Thomas stated they no longer had the street sweeper. Kim inquired about the possibility of having another surrounding town do it and stated she would check into it. Katrina Hallman

stated it would most likely not be done before fair time due to the fact it would probably have to go before that town's council and the time constraints associated. Kim inquired about the estimated cost of both the water leak and gravel request. Thomas stated he didn't think the first would be over \$500 and the latter should be under \$300.

5. The need for more flag mounting brackets for the electric poles. Thomas also stated the trees would be trimmed at the park before the fair.

**OLD BUSINESS.**

1. Kim Byers had no ordinances for review.
2. Mayor Minor reported the rig from the old brush truck had been installed on the new one and he would like to start the process to sell the old truck by sealed bids. The truck does need a new motor. Discussion was held regarding advertising and the necessity of the sealed bid process. Diana Locke said she would field any questions regarding the ad. Emily Harding, Sumner County Economic Development Commission representative for South Haven, said she would relay the information to the other members of the commission about the new brush truck, which was acquired by firefighter donation funds.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

1. Discussion was held regarding the sewer pump issue and the relatively minor difference in price between the rebuilt and new. Steve Nicholson motioned to purchase the new pump and Diana Locke seconded. Katrina Hallman asked how much goes into the sewer every month. Thomas replied it depends on the amount of infiltration. Thomas explained to the council a prior issue with a sewer manhole near a pond that had allowed large amounts of water into the system after a big rain, but since it had been sealed there had not been an issue. Thomas also discussed the drawbacks of the old vacuum sewer pumps. Kim Byers asked for another explanation of the sewer pump problems and Thomas explained. Kim inquired about any warranty, but that had expired years ago. Katrina Hallman inquired about the amount in the sewer fund and what would happen if there were not enough funds to purchase a new pump outright. Kim Byers inquired about taking out a loan for the pump so as to not totally deplete the fund and requested finding out the current interest rate. Discussion was held. With the sewer pump being a necessity, it was decided the issue of how to finance will be determined

later. Steve Nicholson again motioned to purchase the new pump and Diana Locke seconded. The council vote passed unanimously. Thomas will get the new pump ordered.

2. Katrina Hallman motioned to purchase two loads of gravel for the lift station and Diana Locke seconded. The council vote passed unanimously.

The proposed 2018 budget meeting for the purpose of hearing and answering objections of taxpayers relating to the proposed use of all funds and the amount of ad valorem tax was then

held. Lengthy discussion was held. Kim Byers questioned why the library was not funded by the city. It was explained the library was the South Haven Township Library, which was funded by South Haven Township, which includes South Haven. Kim also inquired about the money from the road fund. The road fund money comes from the state and is not levied by the city. Kim also inquired about the amount of money coming out of each fund for city personnel services. The clerk explained it was a percentage that may vary each month dependent on work performed. After more discussion, Steve Nicholson motioned to adopt the 2018 budget and

Katrina Hallman seconded. The council vote passed four to one. Kim Byers did not vote.

Mayor Minor reported that the September meeting date would be on the Labor Day holiday. After discussion, it was decided to hold the September council meeting on Wednesday, September 6, due to the lack of a quorum on the regularly scheduled alternate Tuesday.

Discussion was held concerning the sale of the old brush truck. It was decided to put an ad in the paper and accept sealed bids until September 30.

Kim Byers inquired about old debt recovery balances turned over to the state and suggested implementing payment plans for recovering current outstanding debt. Kim also requested to see additional accounting paperwork for each month.

There being no further business, Steve Nicholson motioned to adjourn the meeting and Diana Locke seconded. The council vote passed all in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:42pm.

